

Message Text

PAGE 01 CANBER 04707 240255Z

73

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 240230Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1547

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 4707

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MARR, PGOV, AS

SUBJ: GOA CABINET

REF: (A) MELBOURNE A-17, APRIL 19, 1973; (B) MELBOURNE 0775

1. MORRIS WEISZ, RETIRED FSO NOW CONDUCTING LABOR POLICY SURVEY IN AUSTRALIA AS DIRECTOR OF MANPOWER DIVISION FOR OECD, WAS PRESENT AUGUST 23 DURING EXCHANGE BETWEEN WHITLAM AND LABOR MINISTER CAMERON.

2. IN COURSE GENERAL DISCUSSION OF AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL DYNAMICS, WHITLAM SAID ACTU PRESIDENT AND ALP PRESIDENT BOB HAWKE WANTED TO ENTER PARLIAMENT TO REPLACE CAMERON AND SHIFT CAMERON TO MINISTER FOR DEFENSE. CAMBERON ASSERTED HE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST IN SUCH A CHANGE. WEISZ HAD IMPRESSION THAT WHITLAM AND CAMERON HAD BEEN OVER THIS SUBJECT BEFORE.

3. COMMENT: PLEASE PROTECT WEISZ AS SOURCE. WE WERE AWARE OF HAWKE'S ESPOUSAL OF THIS CABINET SHIFT (REF MESSAGES). APPOINTMENT OF CAMERON TO DEFENSE WOULD OF COURSE CAUSE REAL CONCERN TO USG. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS PRESENTLY A SERIOUS POSSIBILITY.
GREEN

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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